

# **Denise Moreno Ducheny**

California State Senate • 40th District

## **NewsRelease**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Senator Ducheny Bill to Clean Up the New River Passes First Committee**

**Sacramento, CA** –SB 387 by Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny (D-San Diego) easily passes its first Legislative review today, receiving approval by the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee with a 10-0 vote. SB 387 eliminates a legal hurdle that has stymied efforts addressing the need for clean up efforts of the New River. The bill is sponsored by the Calexico New River Committee.

SB 387 will help implement the proposed restoration plan of the Calexico New River committee, which includes encasement of a portion of the New River through the City of Calexico to protect human health and the natural environment.

“Cleaning up the New River is one of my top priorities. This is the most polluted river in California and exposes Imperial Valley residents to dangerous health conditions. This is an urgent matter that must be addressed this year,” said Ducheny.

The restoration plan includes several components, including the continued use of wetlands to clean up the river. However Senator Ducheny also believes that some portions of the river are better served by encasing and allowing for a parkway on top of the river. This would allow for recreational activities without putting people at risk of disease where the river crosses the border.

Separate from this legislation, Senator Ducheny has requested funding from the boards and departments that allocate grant funds. She will work closely with budget subcommittee that is responsible for the budget of those governmental organizations.

“I appreciate the efforts of Pablo Orozco and the members of the Calexico New River Committee and am pleased to see the local supporters that came to Sacramento from Calexico, I’m sure their efforts helped ensure the overwhelming support of this measure in Committee,” state Ducheny.

*Senator Ducheny represents parts of San Diego and Riverside Counties and all of Imperial County.*

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